

For Immediate Release

Reception-Diagnostic Center Employees Display Heroism

Department of Correction Officers first officials on scene in serious accident.

Plainfield, IN – March 31, 2009 – Two Correctional Officers from the Department of Correction's Reception-Diagnostic Center went above and beyond their duties Monday afternoon in an attempt to save the lives of others.



Commissioner Buss (center) recognizes Officers Mark Wappes (left) and Dennis Krackenberger (right) for their good work.

Transportation Officers Mark Wappes and Dennis Krackenberger were driving through northern Sullivan County after transporting offenders, when they came upon a serious accident involving a truck pulling a camper, which had rolled over. Without knowing the extent of the victims' injuries, the Transportation Officers stopped at the scene, assisted the elderly couple trapped inside the vehicle, and assisted with traffic control until law enforcement officers arrived. The officers also eliminated a potentially dangerous situation by shutting off leaking propane tanks located on the trailer. They remained at the accident until rescue personnel arrived and cleared the scene. One victim was airlifted to an Indianapolis area hospital, and the other was taken to a local hospital.



The wrecked vehicle after the occupants were extracted.

Superintendent Beckie Bennett commended these officers on their dedication and service during this accident. “It’s great that the Department of Correction, and our facility in particular, has such great employees who are willing to assist in whatever situation that arises. My sincere appreciation goes out to these officers.”

About the Reception-Diagnostic Center:

The Reception-Diagnostic is a maximum security intake facility for adult males in Plainfield, Indiana.

About the Department of Correction:

The Department employs over 7,400 employees and houses 26,000 adults and juveniles in 28 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and community re-entry centers. The Department’s web page can be found at

<http://www.in.gov/idoc>.

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